In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-3, 7, and 9-13 as follows:

1.   (Currently amended) A disk unit having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller ~~which controls~~to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out in a specific region on the disk, said specific region extending ~~for~~through an angular range smaller than 360°.

2.   (Currently amended) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the specific region is provided at a plurality of locations on the disk.

3.   (Currently amended) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a motor ~~which rotates~~to rotate the disk,

said controller controlling the movement of the head so that the load operation and the unload operation are carried out based on a rotary position of the motor.

4.   (Original) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the specific region of the disk is prerecorded with a synchronizing signal.

5. (Original) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein data is recordable in regions of the disk other than the specific region.

6. (Original) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller controls the movement of the head so that the unload operation is carried out in the specific region based on servo information which is prerecorded on the disk.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A disk unit ~~as claimed in claim 3,~~ ~~wherein~~having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out in a specific region on the disk, said specific region extending through an angular range smaller than 360°; and

a motor to rotate the disk,

wherein said controller controls the movement of the head so that the load operation and the unload operation are carried out based on a rotary position of the motor, and

said controller detects the rotary position of the motor a plurality of times during one revolution of the motor, and sets the specific region on the disk with respect to each detected rotary position of the motor.

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8. (Original) The disk unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disk is provided with a protection layer, and a thickness of the protection layer is larger in at least the specific region compared to other regions of the disk.

9. (Currently amended) A disk unit having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller ~~which controls~~to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out uniformly in a circumferential direction of the disk within a specific region on the disk, said specific region extending through an angular range smaller than 360°.

10. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A disk unit ~~as claimed in claim 9,~~having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out uniformly in a circumferential direction of the disk within a specific region on the disk,

wherein said controller controls the movement of the head so that a position on the disk where the head is loaded during the load operation and the head is unloaded during

the unload operation is successively shifted by a predetermined distance in the circumferential direction of the disk within the specific region on the disk for each load operation and each unload operation.

11.   (Currently amended) ~~The~~A disk unit ~~as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:~~having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out uniformly in a circumferential direction of the disk within a specific region on the disk; and

a motor ~~which rotates~~to rotate the disk,

said controller controlling the movement of the head so that a position on the disk where the head is loaded during the load operation and the head is unloaded during the unload operation is successively shifted by a predetermined distance in the circumferential direction of the disk within the specific region on the disk for each load operation and each unload operation, by detecting a rotary position of the motor and delaying a time until the load operation or the unload operation is carried out from a predetermined rotary position of the motor.

12.   (Currently amended) ~~The~~A disk unit ~~as claimed in claim 9,~~having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out uniformly in a circumferential direction of the disk within a specific region on the disk,

wherein data is recordable in regions of the disk including the specific region.

13.   (Currently amended) ~~The~~A disk unit ~~as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:~~having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising:

a controller to control a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out uniformly in a circumferential direction of the disk within a specific region on the disk; and

a motor ~~which rotates~~to rotate the disk,

said controller detecting a rotary position of the motor by detecting a back-electromotive voltage generated by a rotation of the motor, and controlling timings of the load operation and the unload operation based on the detected rotary position.

14.   (Original) The disk unit as claimed in claim 13, wherein said controller controls the movement of the head so that a position on the disk where the head is loaded during the load operation and the head is unloaded during the unload operation is successively shifted by a predetermined distance in the circumferential direction of the disk within the specific region on the disk for each load operation and each unload operation, based on the detected back-electromotive voltage.